

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 3, 2019

A Prophet to All Nations

Readings: [Jeremiah 1:4–5, 17–19](#); [Psalm 71:1–6, 15–17](#); [1 Corinthians 12:31–13:13](#); [Luke 4:21–30](#)

God's words in today's 1st Reading point us beyond Jeremiah to Jesus. Like Jeremiah, Jesus was consecrated in the womb and sent as a "prophet to the nations" ([Luke 1:31–33](#)).

Like the prophets before Him, Jesus too faces hostility. In today's Gospel, the crowd in His hometown synagogue quickly turns on Him, apparently demanding a sign, some proof of divine origins—that He's more than just "the son of Joseph." The sign He gives them is that of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. From their colorful careers Jesus draws two stories. In each, the prophets bypass "many . . . in Israel" to bestow God's blessings on non-Israelites who had faith that the prophets were men of God ([1 Kings 17:1–16](#); [2 Kings 5:1–14](#)). "None . . . not one" in Israel was found deserving, Jesus emphasizes.

His point isn't lost on His audience. They know He's likening them to the "many . . . in Israel" in the days of the prophets. That's why they try to shove Him off the cliff. As He promised to protect Jeremiah, the Lord delivers Jesus from those who would crush Him.

And as were Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is sent to proclaim God's gift of salvation—not exclusively to one nation or people, but to all who realize in faith that from the womb God alone is their hope, their rescuer, their "rock of refuge," as we sing in today's Psalm.

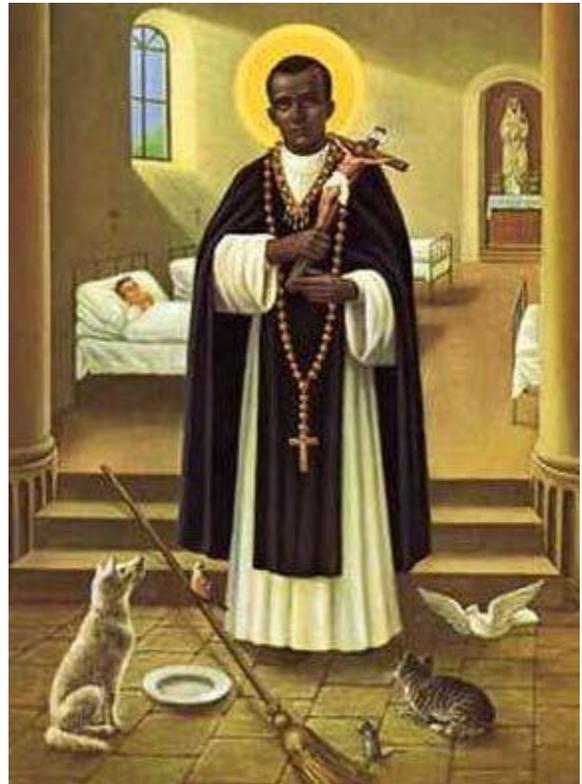
Prophecies, Paul tells us in today's Epistle, are partial and pass away "when the perfect comes." In Jesus, the word of the prophets has been brought to perfection, fulfilled in those who have ears to hear, as He declares in today's Gospel.

Greater than the gifts of faith and hope, Jesus shows us how to love as He loved—to love God as our Father, as the one who formed us in the womb and destined us to hear His saving Word.

This is the salvation, the "mighty works of the Lord," that we, like the psalmist, are thankful to proclaim daily in the Eucharist.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor

The National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family. This year's celebration takes place on Sunday, February 3, 2019, on the first weekend of Black History Month. This celebration was created by Fr. James Goode, OFM in 1989, to give special thanks to God for our families and place our every care in the arms of Jesus.



Saint Martin de Porres

Martin de Porres Velázquez, O.P. (December 9, 1579 – November 3, 1639), was a Peruvian lay brother of the Dominican Order who was beatified in 1837 by Pope Gregory XVI and canonized in 1962 by Pope John XXIII. He is the patron saint of mixed-race people, barbers, innkeepers, public health workers, and all those seeking racial harmony. He was noted for his work on behalf of the poor, establishing an orphanage and a children's hospital. He maintained an austere lifestyle, which included fasting and abstaining from meat. Among the many miracles attributed to him were those of levitation, bilocation, miraculous knowledge, instantaneous cures, and an ability to communicate with animals.

Mass Intentions for the Week

February 2 - 9, 2019

Sat. 2/2	8:00 am	Souls in purgatory
	4:30pm	+Winslow Vickerie
Sun. 2/3	8:00am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Theresa Arteaga (healing)
	1:00 pm	Theresa Arteaga (healing)
Mon. 2/4	12:00	+Msgr. Oliver McGready
Tue. 2/5	12:00	+Fr. Bill Hines
Wed. 2/6	12:00	+Fr. G. Ralph Duffy
Thu. 2/7	12:00	+Fr. Henry J. Januszkiewicz
Fri. 2/8	12:00	Rohini Perera
Sat. 2/9	8:00 am	Florencio E. Santoyo
	4:30pm	+Cher Perera

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Theresa Arteaga, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Eileen Carroll-Doshier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege *Kevin Fagan, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Linda Foster, *Charlie Gick, *Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, * Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *James Humphries, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Clarence Morris, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Sheryl Newman, *Amelie Ongbehahal, *Father Everett Pearson, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta.

Rest in Peace

Ms. Rhina Carmona, mother of Maria Carmona-Ari Fitzgerald's wife. Ms. Carmona passed away on Thursday, January 31st. Her funeral mass will be held on Monday at 10:00 am at St. Michael's Church in Silver Spring. There will be a wake on Sunday from 2:00-4:00 pm at Collins Funeral Home, in Silver Spring.

"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Her Oh Lord!"

Tax statements request: Forms are located at both entrances of the church. Complete the form and put it in the collection basket or mail it to the Rectory. Tax statements will be mailed.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

1/27/19

Attendance: 436 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$5,983

Spanish Mass: \$211

Utility fund: \$289

Catholic Schools Month - "Your offerings work. Nativity's ADW assessments support the St. Anthony parish school in NE (Washington, DC). We are a poor parish and I cannot even afford a Religious Ed. director for our children. We do much with only volunteers. Thank you, Nativity, for your support to Catholic Schools. Daily we pray for you." - Fr. Fred Close, Pastor, St. Anthony parish & school, a "son" of Nativity.

Dollars and Diapers outreach Ministry 2019. Please place all monetary donations into provided envelopes (also next to the altar) and be sure to only place the donation into the Sunday collection. Diapers may be dropped off at the front vestibule of the church in the labeled collection containers.

For Adults - Gang Awareness - Fr. Evans recommends PBS's "Frontline" series on the rise of the MS-13 gang and how it has spread throughout the USA. The show aired in Winter 2018 and is being rebroadcast. Video segments are also online at PBS and You Tube.

Quo Vadis? If you are a Junior or Senior, come and shadow a day in the life of a seminarian at Saint John Paul II Seminary to experience seminary life first-hand! Friday, February 15, 2019. More information and to register visit: www.dcpriest.org or email vocations@adw.org

Youth Faith and Fun day. February 16, 2019

For young people starting at 3rd grade to Senior in High School

- ✓ fun, games, lessons, lunch, daily mass, mentor help from young peers

At Nativity Church with volunteers from Our Lady of Bethesda Center 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers. Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5.00 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses). Donations are welcome! -

Save the date! Music Spotlight - Children's Concert - Sat. April 6, at 5 pm. *The Mid Atlantic Choral Festival & Mass with the American Federation Pueri Cantores.* Hundreds of children and youth from Washington and the Mid Atlantic will sing under the direction of Richard Robbins, culminating is Mass for the 5th Sunday of Lent. St. Peter's Parish Capitol Hill. 313 Second Street, SE. Washington, DC 20003